

EREF

European Renewable Energies Federation

Press Declaration 18th of April 2008

Dr. Nikos Vassilakos elected as new President of EREF

On the occasion of EREF's annual General Assembly held on 15th April in Freising / Germany, Dr. Nikos Vassilakos has been unanimously elected new President of the European Renewable Energy Federation (EREF). He succeeds Peter Danielsson who's second term as President ended according to the Federation's statutes after four years of very successful work.

Nikos Vassilakos has been actively engaged in EREF's activities since its foundation back in 2000 and served as its Vice President since 2004.

His commitment to promoting renewable energies and his professional experience in the sector which he gained as Managing Director of Network Consulting Group, a highly specialised consultancy firm for national and international projects and scientific studies in the renewable energies sector, and in his position as Director of the Greek Association of Renewable Energy Producers, make him a most suitable person to take up this challenging position.

“This year is a crucial year for the renewable industries' sector. The implementation of the 2020 targets set by the European Council last year is a huge challenge for the European legislator and stakeholders alike, but in particular for the renewable industry. We definitely need to get the legal framework right, in order to ensure further sustainable growth of renewable energies and security of supply. I am very much looking forward to continue our work with the European Institutions and to meet this challenge. EREF will continue to ask for clear safeguards and further development of the most successful national policies, meaning the feed-in mechanisms. There is no way for us to accept an EU 27 wide green certificate trading mechanism to the detriment of these national systems”, stressed Nikos Vassilakos.

Although the new RES directive will be one of the top priorities of EREF in the coming months, Nikos Vassilakos declared that also other issues such as grid enforcement and priority grid access for independent RES producers will be high on his agenda. “We need to further strengthen the voice of Europe's independent power producers and support them in their efforts to reach a level playing field in the European energy market”.

Mr. Vassilakos' presidency work will be supported by the three Vice-presidents Peter Danielsson (SERO - Sweden), Antonio Sá da Costa (APREN- Portugal) and Rainer Hinrich-Rahlwes (BEE- Germany) and the other Board Members: Peter Ahmels (BWE- Germany), Claudia Grotz (BWE, Germany), Daniel Soreau (EAF-France), Jean Michel Germa (FEE-France), Preben Maegaard (Folkecenter, Denmark), Claudius da Costa Gomez (Fachverband Biogas e.V.-Germany), Patrik Krizanský (ZVES- Slovakia) and industry representative Klaus Hofmann (Schott AG - Germany).

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